

APPLICATION NO.

10/634,073

TRASK BRITT

P.O. BOX 2550

24247

United States Patent and Trademark Office

FILING DATE

08/04/2003

7590

SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84110

05/06/2004

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO
2985.7US (96-0770.07/US)	5252

PICARDAT, KEVIN M

PAPER NUMBER

ART UNIT

DATE MAILED: 05/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

FIRST NAMED INVENTOR

Jerrold L. King

Application/Control Number: 10/634,073

Art Unit: 2822

DETAILED ACTION

Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970);and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 1-13 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-13 of U.S. Patent No. 6,207,474. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the only difference between the applicant's claims and the patented claims is that applicant claims packaged semiconductor devices and patented claims only state semiconductor devices, however, patented claims can still include packaged devices.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin M. Picardat whose telephone number is 571-272-1841. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7:00-5:30.

Art Unit: 2822

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amir Zarabian can be reached on 571-272-1852. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kevin M. Picardat Primary Examiner Art Unit 2822

kmp